



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, September 7, 2011
Town Hall – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee

David Reif - absent
Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Donna White - absent
Colleen Shapiro

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

Student Representative

Jen Markham

Guests

John Londa

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- * Call to Order – In Dr. Reif's absence, Dr. Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
 - * Chairman's Report – None.
 - * Review and Approve Minutes
 - August 17, 2011 Regular Session Minutes – tabled to next session.
 - August 17, 2011 Executive Session Minutes – tabled to next session.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for signatures.
 - * Superintendent's Report
 - Superintendent Calmes announced that we had a wonderful start to the new school year. Jen Markham reported that the high school has a new principal, Mr. Dillon. Everyone is getting acclimatized and after-school programs are underway, along with athletic programs. The superintendent encouraged everyone to check out the new website. The schools are requesting email addresses from parents/guardians to keep them informed about important events at the schools.
 - The superintendent listed the names of teachers awarded with professional status this year. She also recognized staff with 20+ years of service to the Lunenburg Public Schools.
 - Superintendent Calmes highlighted the technology upgrades that were put in place over the summer and thanked Nancy Strom, Josh Branham & Alex Smith for their work in installing all the new equipment and implementing the new software programs. These upgrades provide more and better access for students as we move forward.
 - Enrollment is about where we expected it to be. We are confirming the numbers. PowerSchool is moving forward, including food services. Grades K-8 are moving to a system where no cash will be used. We are looking at possibly doing the same at the high school.
 - * Regional Planning Committee Report – Dr. Berthiaume gave an update. He reported out on the joint meeting in July and the August 22 meeting when the full committee met and the North Middlesex group recommended not moving forward with regionalization. However, there was no vote. On August 23 the Lunenburg Regional Planning Committee met and voted to withdraw from negotiations with North Middlesex at that time. This has been communicated to North Middlesex, the Massachusetts School Building Authority, and the Board of Selectmen. We are waiting to hear back from the MSBA on what the next steps are. We now have clarity and a better sense of where we'll be going so we can now plan the future of Lunenburg schools. Superintendent Calmes said it may be necessary to provide a formal report to the MSBA. We have a strategic plan and District Improvement Plan that need to be updated and that will

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happen. There was discussion around the facility needs of the Lunenburg School District and the challenges we face in finding a solution to ensure we have a stable school system. Ms. Shapiro thanked the RPC for moving forward with their vote. She also asked and encouraged the community to get involved and engaged as we move forward with reconfiguration of the school district or renovation, whatever may happen.

* Public Comment – None.

* New Business

Action

a. Donations

- BEMIS – \$500 for new cheerleader uniforms. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the donation from BEMIS. Vote: unanimous.
- Target donation – \$129.88 for the Primary School. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the donation from Target. Vote: unanimous.

b. Ratification of Custodian's Contract – tabled to a future meeting.

Discussion

a. Capital Plan – Mr. Londa addressed the committee. The school department's capital plan needs to be submitted to the Capital Planning Committee by September 30. The Capital Planning Committee would like a five-year plan but will accept a 10-year plan. Mr. Londa had six items on the proposed capital plan including:

1. HS feasibility study
2. Roof replacement at TCP
3. Pick-up truck for the district
4. Athletic field ADA/safety
5. Upgrade electrical at TCP
6. Tennis court repairs

He gave details on each of the items and reasons for recommending they be on the capital plan. There was further discussion on the proposed capital plan. A repair of the TCP roof would be approximately \$100K vs. the full replacement cost of \$650K. Dr. Berthiaume would like to see a number for how much we would get reimbursed from the MSBA if we were to move forward with that, as well as a firm number on how much a roof repair would cost. There was discussion around the snow guards for the gym roof at THMS and why it's not on this year's list given that it is a safety concern. Dr. Berthiaume recommended Mr. Londa restructure the capital plan because there are too many unknowns. He also would like to see the High School feasibility study taken out of the capital plan. The committee will take the final vote at the next school committee meeting.

* Old Business

Discussion

a. School Committee FY12 Goals – Dr. Berthiaume read his recommended goal, as did Mr. Mackin. Ms. Shapiro's were similar to Mr. Mackin's. The committee will vote at the next meeting.

Action

- a. Advisory Committee Appointments – There were four applicants: Ms. Kristen Tuttle, who has two students at TCP; Ms. Rhonda Lisio, who has one student at TCP; Mr. Todd Blake, who has students at the Primary and TCP; and Mr. Pete McCauliff, with students at THMS and LHS. Ms. Lisio addressed the committee. She is a member of the PAC and holds a Bachelor's degree in communication. There was discussion around the size of the Advisory Committee and whether or not it could be increased. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to increase the size of the Advisory Committee and invite a member of the Planning Board to join the committee. Vote: unanimous. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to appoint the four parent volunteers to the Advisory Committee. Vote: unanimous.
- b. Superintendent's FY12 Goals – Superintendent Calmes reviewed her revised goals for FY12. There was discussion around fees. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's goals for 2011-2012. Vote: unanimous.

- * Public Comment – David Matthews asked if we could get some clarification from the MSBA around what they are going to support. Superintendent Calmes will write a letter asking them if they will provide additional information to us.

* Reports

- a. Advisory Committee
- b. Finance Committee
- c. School Councils
- d. PTO
- e. Policy Sub-Committee
- f. Capital Planning Committee
- g. Health Advisory Committee
- h. PAC/SAL – Meeting on Tuesday.
- i. Regional Planning Committee – Meeting on Monday with Nashoba Vocational Technical High School.
- j. Rep. Benson's Advisory
- l. Other

* Continuing Projects/Estimated Date of Completion

* Items for Future Discussion

- Workshop Sessions
- Facilities Use Procedure
- Civic Engagement

- * Executive Session - M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B [3] To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. At 8:11 p.m. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategies related to collective bargaining. Vote: unanimous.

Roll Call

Dr. Berthiaume – yes

Ms. Shapiro – yes

Mr. Mackin – yes

- * Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at the end of executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mary Landi
Recording Secretary

c/5/27/4/mel

APPROVED

Lunenburg School Committee

Date: 7/28/11

ML
Initials